Principal’s Note

Thank you Kim, Leonie, Elaine, Charlotte, Wendy, Ross, Matt, Punk, Tony, Miss Jenny and Fiona (Longreach) for all the marvellous work that you did at the Fishing Carnival. 165 people registered this year.

Welcome to the end of Term 2. We have had an extremely busy term and I am pleased with the progress that we are making at school. Semester 1 report cards will go home with the students on the last day of term. If you wish to discuss your child’s report I will be happy to meet with you in Week 1 Term 3.

Also included in the envelope containing the report will be information about the 2015 School Opinion Survey. Each year the department invites parents, students and school staff to have their say about their school; about what the school does well and how it can improve. Participation in the survey is anonymous and all information that you provide is treated confidentially. The feedback is provided to the school but the school cannot identify individual comments.

The survey opens on the 29 June online and will be available until 31 July 2015, and should take less than ten minutes to complete. To access the survey, please type the following web address into your computer’s browser, then select the Parent/Caregiver Survey link and enter the access codes provided to you (Blue letter included with Report Card). Web address: www.education.qld.gov.au/schoolopinionsurvey


I urge you to complete this survey. If accessing the internet is a problem please feel free to come to the school and use the school internet. I know that some people are loath to use the internet for surveys and I did try to obtain paper copies but was unable to. If you feel unsure about completing the survey you are welcome to contact me and I will help in any way I can.

eKindy

Linda Vella, one of the organizers for eKindy will be at Windorah State School the first Friday after the holidays (17 July) at 9:30am. She would love to speak to parents of pre-prep school aged children. This includes children due to go into prep next year. Could you please let anyone with children of this age know about Linda’s visit.

eKindy offers a comprehensive ‘at home’ kindergarten program for your child in the year before Prep. The program is designed so that children living in rural and remote areas can engage in quality kindergarten experiences and maximise their learning as they play, create, imagine and discover.

The eKindy program may be your first experience of distance education or you may be an experienced distance education parent. Your child may continue their learning in distance education next year, or may attend a school-based Prep program. Either way, the
program will give your child the flying start they deserve.

The eKindy program is teacher-supported and covers 15 hours of Kindergarten for 40 weeks of the year (school terms only), which is equivalent to a centre-based kindergarten program. eKindy provides a flexible program that families are able to work through in ways that meet the needs of their child and family. This means you can spread the sessions across the week to fit around your work and family commitments. Your child’s teacher can also help you find ways to organise the program to meet the needs of your family and your child.

Jenny Hughes
Principal

I am pleased to report that the school attendance rate for Semester 1 is at 95.9%. Well done to everyone.

Just a reminder about why the Department monitors this so closely.

Windorah State School
Responsible Behaviour Plan for Students based on The Code of School Behaviour

Every four years government legislation requires schools to review their Responsible Behaviour Plan for Students and Windorah’s is due this year. This term I have been revising the plan and will table it at the next P & C meeting for parents to peruse, make suggestions about how it can be improved and endorse it so that it can be sent to the Executive Director (Schools).

Term 3 will see Miss Jenny and myself reteaching the school rules and expectations.

A Windorah Kid is Safe.
- Use equipment appropriately
- Enter & Exit rooms orderly
- Hands and feet to yourself
- Walk in the classroom
- Sit appropriately.

A Windorah Kid is Responsible.
- Be prepared
- Accept outcomes
- Be a problem solver
- Follow instructions
- Keep work space tidy
- Use toilet at Break Time (P-3).

A Windorah Kid is Respectful.
- Respect others right to learn
- Be a good listener
- Play – take turns
- Raise your hand to speak.

We are aiming to use “Gottcha” or “Desert Dollar” tokens to reward the children seen following the rules. The aim is for each child to earn 20 tokens a week. If a child does this he/she will receive a positive consequence. By the end of Term each child will be encouraged to have 200 tokens and will participate in a FUN Day or an activity deemed appropriate for the occasion.

Class News
Friday 12th June saw us having an enjoyable Pirate Day. We were also raising funds for Childhood Cancer. We sang pirate songs, danced pirate dances, converted our police lady into a pirate and participated in a treasure hunt. I am very impressed with Lily and Kitty’s knowledge of directions. The children followed a treasure map and ended up finding the treasure in a south-western tree.
Thank you Peta Geiger. Peta has been coming to school and teaching the children athletics. This has been very enjoyable and it has helped our older girls get ready for the Longreach School of Distance Education and Small Schools Carnival on the 18th and 19th June. Miss Jenny will take the girls to Longreach and I will stay at school with the younger children.

Prep Pirates

Sport

We have started to hold Friday Sporting Afternoons. The first Friday saw us playing Netball. Thank you to all of the community members who helped to make this such an enjoyable game. The next Friday we played T Ball and last Friday we played soccer. If anyone wants to join in please do as the aim of the Friday afternoons is to give the children the opportunity to participate in team sports, to practise sportsmanship and to have a good time.

Garden

We planted a lot of seeds and have ended up with an oversupply of pea seedlings. Thank you Robbie for the netting cages you have made to save the plants from our feathered friends.

Windorah Sports Camp

Rhonda has worked extremely hard in organising this event and I would like to thank her. We were successful in obtaining a grant from RADF. Thank you Helen Kidd for your help with the application.

Flipside Circus

http://www.flipsidecircus.org.au/performances/

Flipside Circus is Queensland’s largest youth circus company with a national reputation for training and shows. At Flipside, we encapsulate our core values across every program: Self, Work, Trust, Dream, Risk, Show Off, Laugh!

Our activities are child-centred and empowering, both in content and process. The steady development of our organisation has focused on achieving congruency between our goals and actual practice, alongside a deep desire to ensure financial sustainability for Flipside’s future.

Flipside Circus values children and young people as cultural creators. The organisation aims to instil in young people Flipside’s core values of safe risk taking, hard work, showing off, laughter, building trust and valuing dreams and aspirations through providing access to all young people regardless of background and location.

Flipside Circus provides a circus program that is extensive and includes an exciting range of circus activities. Children can start in Circus Foundations and there is a clear path through Intermediate, Advanced and then into the Performance program if desired.

Flipside has earned a reputation as one of Australia’s leading youth circus companies. Our performances have earned wide applause at major Australian Festivals and theatres and we also regularly perform at smaller community events.

Have a good mid-year holiday break everyone.
Jenny H. & Jenny B.